

REMARKS

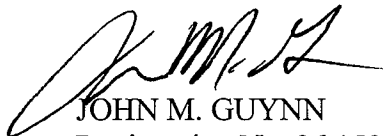
Applicants and Applicants' attorney express appreciation to the Examiner for the courtesies extended during the recent interview held on July 19, 2006. Reconsideration and allowance for the above-identified application are now respectfully requested. Claims 1-21 are pending, wherein new claims 16-21 were added from related U.S. application Serial No. 11/137,592.

As the '592 application and the present application both claim priority to U.S. application Serial No. 10/439,943, and because claims 1-15 in the two applications are identical, Applicants' representative and the Examiner agreed it would be more efficient to combine all the claims and proceed with the examination in a single application.

In the event that the Examiner finds any remaining impediment to a prompt allowance of this application that may be clarified through a telephone interview or which may be overcome by examiner amendment, the Examiner is requested to contact the undersigned attorney.

Dated this 26th day of July 2006.

Respectfully submitted,



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